Mr. T. K. Nayar *(Minister for Rural Development)*: I have only to put one word, and that is, the Hon'ble Member for Planters cannot raise any cut motion because I have spent the whole amount of Rs. 1,85,000 in his constituency.

Mr. V. J. Mathai *(Planters)*: Which is my constituency? It is Cochin State.

Mr. President: The Hon'ble Minister representing the transferred half humorously referred to the large amounts spent on the Harbour and proposed to be spent on the Chalakkudi scheme. On behalf of the reserved half I would like to point out one reason why it is possible to get minor irrigation works done is the existence of the Harbour. Directly and indirectly very large sums of money are being derived by the State from the Harbour. So far as the Chalakkudi scheme is concerned they need not have any fear because the scheme is designed to bring in a good return for the money expended. I realise that he said it in a humorous way and my reply is in the same spirit.

Mr. V. J. Mathai *(Planters)*: In regard to this matter I have to make one preliminary observation. So far as Cochin politics go there is a ministerialist party and there is practically no opposition, and so far as opposition goes my little insight into the records of the Mother of Parliament have shown me that there has been accusation on the floor of the mother of Parliament of Ministers being traitors by no less a person than Sir Austin Chamberlain. Therefore I mean to say it is for the opposition to oppose and it is for the opposition to criticise the Minister and say anything provided we keep his person sacro-sanct so far as the individual person and character of Mr. Nayar is concerned, this is not the forum for us to say anything. As far as his actions as the Minister are concerned, Sir, we are entitled to say that he has been partial and he has been wrong.

Mr. President: I can assure the Hon'ble Member that if he had indulged in anything unparliamentary I would have rectified it.

Mr. V. J. Mathai *(Planters)*: We have to keep his person above everything, as I said sacro-sanct, but so far as his actions are concerned, subject to the authority and the rulings of the Chair, we can certainly attack him constitutionally. I may also say that the object of the motion was for a discussion. We wanted to know why exactly such large amounts have been utilised for his constituency and the Talappalli Taluk and if anybody felt that this was an attack, I am sure the Hon'ble Minister has not taken this as an attack. If we have left the budget as it was anybody who goes through the budget would have wondered why so much amount has been spent by him in such a manner.

As regards the merits of the question, I must confess that I am not satisfied. Immediately comes below Motion No. 5 the reply to which I may anticipate, as it has come from certain quarters, is that there is not enough money, but I should not go into that now. I have only to point out that there are other cases which demand immediate action, for instance the Pothundi reservoir scheme.

Mr. C. K. Nayar *(Nemmara)*: That is not a minor irrigation scheme.

Mr. V. J. Mathai *(Planters)*: There are several minor irrigation schemes which can be taken.

Mr. Joseph Pettah *(Adur)*: Will you mention some of those works?

Mr. V. J. Mathai *(Planters)*: Provided you come with me for tea. I can assert that there are any number of other works which could be taken up in the Chittur Taluk, in the Mukundapuram Taluk and Trichur, portions of the Cochin State on the eastern side of the Railway.

Mr. President: Where?

Mr. V. J. Mathai *(Planters)*: All over the Cochin State.

Mr. Joseph Pettah *(Adur)*: Let him mention a specific case.

Mr. V. J. Mathai *(Planters)*: The valley starting from the Kuthiran Hills in Trichur which is on the way to Chittur.

Anyhow, in view of the explanation given by the Hon'ble Minister I beg leave of the House to withdraw my motion.

Motion, by leave, withdrawn

CUT MOTION No. 51

Storing water in higher levels for irrigation

Mr. V. J. Mathai *(Planters)*: Sir, I move the motion with the *object of discussing the desirability of storing water on higher levels than the fields.* If water is stored below the level

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of the fields then the water will have to be laddled out or pumped out which is practically impossible. The attempt is to draw the attention of the Hon'ble Minister and the House to the fact that whenever you construct tanks please you should see that water is stored at higher levels.

Mr. T. K. Nayar *(Minister for Rural Development):* In the tanks that have been silt cleared this point has been kept in view and two sluices have been constructed, one at the bottom level and the other for the surplus water. During dry seasons the last drop of water could be drained from the tank through the lower sluice and during rainy season the surplus water will flow through the other sluice. This principle has been kept in view throughout. This particular motion seeks to impress upon the Government the need for storing water at high elevation. That also is being looked into and wherever possible small dams are being constructed and through diversion channels water could be developed. Some three or four such reservoirs have been constructed. Not exactly reservoirs. There are small streams in the hill tracts and we just put up a bund and water is diverted through channels and single crop lands would be converted into double crop and even single crops that used to dry could be cultivated without draught. I think that is the idea. If it is a big reservoir it will naturally come under major irrigation scheme. But I do not think that is the idea underlying this motion.

Mr. V. J. Mathai *(Planters):* In view of the elaboration I beg leave of the House to withdraw the motion.

Motion, by leave, withdrawn

CUT MOTION No. 52

Clearing the silt in Madathakkattu Chira

Mr. V. J. Mathai *(Planters):* Sir, the object of my motion is *to bring to the attention of the Government the necessity of clearing the silt in the Madathakkattu Chira in Ezhupuram in the Edakkattuvayal village.* I may assure the Hon'ble Minister, Sir, that this chira is hoplessly silted up. The only criticism that may be raised is that it belongs to a private owner. I on behalf of the inhabitants of the locality I may assure the Hon'ble Minister that every effort will be made to get a kychit from the owner and even if that is not possible I would request the Hon'ble Minister to see that it is acquired.

മിസ്റ്റർ കെ. എസ്സ്. പണിക്കർ: On a point of information Sir, ഈ ചിറകൊണ്ട് എത്ര ഏക്കർ സ്ഥലം കൃഷിചെയ്യുവാൻസാധിക്കും?

മിസ്റ്റർ വി. ജെ. മത്തായി. എത്രത്തോളമുണ്ടെന്ന് കൃത്യം പറയുവാൻ സാദ്ധ്യമല്ല.

മിസ്റ്റർ കെ. എസ്സ്. പണിക്കർ: ഉദ്ദേശം എത്രയുണ്ട്.

Mr. V. J. Mathai *(Planters):* Say about 1,000 paras of paddy field.

Mr. T. K. Nayar *(Minister for Rural Development):* This was not brought to my notice till now.

Mr. V. J. Mathai *(Planters):* I once moved this.

Mr. T. K. Nayar *(Minister for Rural Development):* The present report is that it is a private one and it has to be acquired and the cost is roughly estimated at 3,500 rupees. If it is a very useful tank it will be acquired provided it is useful for the surrounding paddy fields. But from the report I think it is not so useful as the Hon'ble Member seems to think. Any way I shall look into the matter and if as the Hon'ble Member just now promised, will get a kychit I assure him that there will be no difficulty.

Mr. A. B. Salem *(Mattancheri):* Are the lands all private owned?

Mr. T. K. Nayar *(Minister for Rural Development):* Surely if this tank will benefit only one or two individual landowners the amount will not be spent. The real difficulty in our State is this. The tank may be there and the owner of the tank will have one or two acres of field and there will be thousands of paras of paddy field belonging to others. This private owner will not be letting out water. He will be extracting money. In such cases the Government should interfere, take over the tank and supply water. That is the policy. This will be looked into.

Mr. V. J. Mathai *(Planters):* There are extensive paddy fields down below in the possession of jenmi's tenants. This tank belongs to a very big jenmi and I believe the paddy do really belong to him. But you must remember that it is in the possession of the tenancy with occupancy right.

Mr. President: Cannot the Hon'ble Member persuade this big jenmi.

Mr. V. J. Mathai *(Planters):* I am told that he is a philanthropic gentleman and I am old that he will be willing to give a kychit to the Government and if the Hon'ble Minister seek my co-operation I am prepared to do whatever I can in the matter.

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